

Appl. No. 09/879,242

Amdt. Dated January 7, 2004

Reply to Office Action of September 25, 2003

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1 (currently amended): A multimaster bus system, comprising:

a bus;

a plurality of units configured to ~~that can~~ be connected via  
~~using~~ the bus; and

a default master that is selected from the plurality of the  
units according to ~~in~~ a dynamically modifiable default-master  
stipulation;

the default-master stipulation being based on criteria  
selected from the group consisting of:

when each unit of the plurality of ~~the~~ units accesses ~~are~~  
~~used on~~ the bus,

how often each unit of the plurality of ~~the~~ units accesses  
~~are used on~~ the bus, and

how long each unit of the plurality of ~~the~~ units accesses ~~are~~  
~~used on~~ the bus.

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2 (currently amended): A multimaster bus system, comprising:

a bus;

a plurality of units configured to ~~that can~~ be connected via  
~~using~~ the bus; and

a default master that is selected from the plurality of ~~the~~  
units according to a ~~in a dynamically modifiable~~ default-  
master stipulation;

one of the plurality of ~~the~~ units that ~~has~~ used the bus last  
being stipulated as the default master according to ~~in~~ the  
~~dynamically modifiable~~ default-master stipulation.

3 (currently amended): A multimaster bus system, comprising:

a bus;

a plurality of units configured to ~~that can~~ be connected  
using the bus; and

a default master that is selected from the plurality of ~~the~~  
units according to ~~in~~ a dynamically modifiable default-master  
stipulation;

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one of the plurality of ~~the~~ units ~~that needed~~ needing the bus more frequently than any others of the plurality of ~~the~~ units in a preceding predetermined time period being stipulated as the default master according to ~~in~~ the dynamically modifiable default-master stipulation.

4 (currently amended): A multimaster bus system, comprising:

a bus;

a plurality of units configured to ~~that can~~ be connected using the bus; and

a default master ~~that is~~ selected from the plurality of the units according to ~~in~~ a dynamically modifiable default-master stipulation configured to select the default master; ~~the default master selected, in the dynamically modifiable default-master stipulation,~~ from the group consisting of:

a particular one of the plurality of the units ~~that is~~ expected to need to access the bus frequently, and

a particular one of the plurality of ~~the~~ units ~~that is~~ expected to need to access the bus rapidly.

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5 (original): The multimaster bus system according to claim 4, comprising:

a program-controlled unit that needs bus access;

the default-master stipulation being based on an analysis selected from the group consisting of an analysis of an actual program cycle of the program-controlled unit and an analysis of an expected program cycle of the program-controlled unit.

6 (original): The multimaster bus system according to claim 4, wherein the dynamically modifiable default-master stipulation is based upon variable criteria and variable parameters.

7 (currently amended): A method for operating a multimaster bus system, which comprises:

providing a bus and a plurality of units configured to that ~~can~~ be connected through ~~using~~ the bus;

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selecting a default master from the plurality of ~~the~~ units ~~in~~  
according to a default-master stipulation that can be  
dynamically modified; and

in the default master stipulation, selecting the default  
master based on criteria selected from the group consisting  
of:

when the plurality of the units are used on the bus,

how often the plurality of the units are used on the bus, and

how long the plurality of the units are used on the bus.

8 (original): The method according to claim 7, which  
comprises varying criteria and varying parameters upon which  
the default-master stipulation is based.

9 (currently amended): A method for operating a multimaster  
bus system, which comprises:

providing a bus and a plurality of units configured to that  
~~can~~ be connected using the bus; and

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selecting a default master from the plurality of ~~the~~ units  
according to ~~in~~ a default-master stipulation that can be  
dynamically modified to select ~~and~~

~~in the default master stipulation, selecting the default~~  
master as one of the plurality of the units that ~~has~~ last  
used the bus.

10 (original): The method according to claim 9, which  
comprises varying criteria and varying parameters upon which  
the default-master stipulation is based.

11 (currently amended): A method for operating a multimaster  
bus system, which comprises:

providing a bus and a plurality of units ~~that can be~~  
connected using the bus; and

selecting a default master from the plurality of ~~the~~ units ~~in~~  
according to a default-master stipulation that can be  
dynamically modified to select ~~and in the default master~~  
~~stipulation, selecting the default master as~~ one of the  
plurality of ~~the~~ units that needed the bus more frequently  
than any others of the plurality of ~~the~~ units in a preceding  
predetermined time period.

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12 (original): The method according to claim 11, which comprises varying criteria and varying parameters upon which the default-master stipulation is based.

13 (currently amended): A method for operating a multimaster bus system, which comprises:

providing a bus ~~and to connect~~ a plurality of units ~~that can be connected using the bus;~~

selecting a default master from the plurality of the units according to ~~in~~ a dynamically modified default-master stipulation that ~~can be dynamically modified, and in the default-master stipulation, selecting~~ selects the default master from the group consisting of:

a particular one of the plurality of the units ~~that is~~ expected to need to access the bus frequently, and

a particular one of the plurality of the units ~~that is~~ expected to need to access the bus rapidly.

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14 (original): The method according to claim 13, which comprises varying criteria and varying parameters upon which the default-master stipulation is based.

15 (original): The method according to claim 13, which comprises:

in the default master stipulation, selecting the default master based on an analysis selected from the group consisting of an analysis of an actual program cycle in a program-controlled unit which needs bus access, and

an analysis of an expected program cycle in the program-controlled unit.

16 (original): The method according to claim 15, which comprises varying criteria and varying parameters upon which the default-master stipulation is based.